

Message Text

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R 200108Z AUG 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP EINV IS US

SUBJECT: U.S.-ISRAEL BUSINESS COUNCIL TEAM VISIT,
SEPTEMBER 4-7

1. THE BUSINESS COUNCIL UNDERTOOK A STUDY OF OBSTACLES TO FOREIGN INVESTMENT IN ISRAEL AS A RESULT OF THE DISCUSSIONS AND CONCLUSIONS DURING COUNCIL PLENARY MEETING ON JUNE 7-10, 1976 IN JERUSALEM. THE STUDY HAS ACTUALLY BEEN CARRIED OUT UNDER THE DIRECTION OF MR. W. B. NICHOLSON, VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF UNION CARBIDE AND VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE U.S. SECTION OF THE COUNCIL.

2. MR. NICHOLSON AND DR. JOHN B. LIGHTSTONE, A MEMBER OF UNION CARBIDE'S EXECUTIVE STAFF, WILL BE IN TEL AVIV SEPTEMBER 4-7, TO DISCUSS THEIR PRELIMINARY FINDINGS WITH THE MINISTRIES OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY. MR. NICHOLSON REQUESTS AN OPPORTUNITY TO BRIEF THE AMBASSY.
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PAGE 02 STATE 198434

DOR ON THE STUDY DURING THE TEAM'S STAY IN ISRAEL.

3. ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE TEAM'S VISIT ARE BEING COORDINATED BY MR. JOSEPH ALSCHECH OF THE MANUFACTURER ASSOCIATION, PHONE NUMBER 55-261 (TEL AVIV). EMBASSY SHOULD INFORM

MR. ALSCHECH AND THE DEPARTMENT WHETHER AN APPOINTMENT

WITH THE AMBASSADOR CAN BE ARRANGED.

4. MR. NICHOLSON HAS NO OBJECTION TO AN EMBASSY OFFICER ATTENDING THE BRIEFINGS FOR THE MINISTRIES. HOWEVER, SINCE THE ARRANGEMENTS IN ISRAEL ARE RESPONSIBILITY OF ISRAEL SECTION OF BUSINESS COUNCIL, MR. NICHOLSON SUGGESTS CONSULTING MR. ALSCHECH FOR VIEWS OF THE ISRAEL SECTION.

5. FYI: DURING PRIME MINISTER BEGIN'S MEETING WITH SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY BLUMENTHAL, THE PRIME MINISTER BRIEFLY DESCRIBED CONTEMPLATED REFORMS IN GOI INVESTMENT REGULATIONS. WASHINGTON AGENCIES BELIEVE THAT A NUMBER OF THE CONTEMPLATED REFORMS MAY STEM FROM THE BUSINESS COUNCIL STUDY. IT MAY BE USEFUL TO EMBASSY AND WASHINGTON COMMERCIAL OPERATIONS TO HAVE A PREVIEW OF FUTURE GOI REFORMS. ASSUMING THE ISRAEL SECTION OF THE COUNCIL HAS NO OBJECTION, WASHINGTON AGENCIES ENCOURAGE EMBASSY TO SEEK TO ATTEND THE BRIEFINGS FOR THE MINISTRIES AND TO REPORT REACTION TO BUSINESS COUNCIL STUDY. END FYI. VANCE

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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 20-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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